GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1549
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2002
VISIT OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER OF RUSSIA .
AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA;LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY;MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT;RAMPAL SINGH

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Deputy Prime Minister of Russia visited India in February, 2002;

(b) if so, the outcome of the discussions held with him;

(c) whether any strategic agreement was signed between the two countries during the visit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a): Yes, Sir. Mr. Ilya Klebanov, then Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of the Russian Federation, paid an official visit to India from 5-8 February, 2002 for the Eighth Session of the Indo-Russian Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC) and the Second Session of the Indo-Russian Inter Governmental Commission on Military-Technical Cooperation (IRIGC-MTC).

(b), (c) and (d): During this visit, Mr. Klebanov and Finance Minister Shri Yashwant Sinha co-chaired the Eighth Session of the IRIGC on 7 February, 2002. Mr. Klebanov and Raksha Mantri Shri George Fernandes co-chaired the Second Session of the IRIGC-MTC Protocols were signed at the end of both these meetings.

Mr. Klebanov also called on the President and Prime Minister of India. He met with the External Affairs Minister and Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister and National Security Advisor Shri Brajesh Mishra.